

REMARKS

Favorable reconsideration of this application, as amended, is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-46 and 49-78 have been cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer.

New claims 79-86 are presented and are readable on the previously elected invention of Group I.

The outstanding claim objections, the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, and the rejection of Claims 1 and 36 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as allegedly being anticipated by Nishizawa are moot in view of the cancellation of Claims 1-44 and 46. However, newly presented Claims 79-86 have been drafted taking the foregoing into consideration.

Newly presented independent Claims 79, 85 and 86 distinguish patentably from Nishizawa. For example, Claims 79, 85 and 86 each recite a third group of terminals that includes four data terminals, an insertion/removal detection terminal and a bus status terminal.

Claim 86 further recites a fourth group of terminals that includes a clock terminal, a data input/output terminal, a reset terminal and a power supply terminal.

Nishizawa is directed to an integrated circuit card having staggered sequences of connector terminals.

Nishizawa describes a staggered layout of connector terminals in two rows. See, e.g., FIGS. 2A and 3A. However, Nishizawa contains no teaching or suggestion of the above mentioned features of Claims 79, 85 and 86. In particular, Nishizawa fails to teach or suggest a third group of terminals that includes an insertion/removal detection terminal and a bus status terminal, as recited in Claims 79, 85 and 86. Nishizawa also fails to teach or suggest a fourth group of terminals that includes a clock terminal, a data input/output terminal, a reset terminal and a power supply terminal, as recited in Claim 86.

Accordingly, independent Claims 79, 85 and 86, and their respective dependents, distinguish patentably from Nishizawa and should now be allowed.

An early Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge to Deposit Account No. 50-1165 (XA-10502) any fees under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 and 1.17 that may be required by this paper and to credit any overpayment to that Account. If any extension of time is required in connection with the filing of this paper and has not been separately requested, such extension is hereby requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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